

David T. McFaddin President

TO: Eastern Kentucky University Faculty Senate

- FROM: President David T. McFaddin
- DATE: November 7, 2022
- RE: Faculty Senate November Report

It has been a spectacular Fall semester. With new deans in many academic programs, new faculty across many disciplines and the steady hand of our EKU experienced educators, I feel a renewed sense of energy on campus.

Homecoming

Speaking of a renewed sense of energy, this Homecoming, more than any of our recent Homecomings, had a special energy. Alumni came back to campus from across the country for exciting events like the Family Dog block party, football game and gatherings amongst academic communities. Thank you to everyone who came out to make Homecoming 2022 so special.

Mark your calendar: Next year's Homecoming Weekend will be October 13-14, 2023.

Fall Commencement Planning

Fall Commencement will be held Saturday, December 3, 2022, at Alumni Coliseum. The ceremonies will take place at:

- 9 a.m. for Colleges of STEM, Business, and CLASS
- 1:30 p.m. for the Colleges of Criminal Justice and Safety, Education and Applied Human Sciences, and Health Sciences.

Due to crowd control and operational processes, there will be no graduation receptions held in Alumni Coliseum after the December graduation ceremonies. If you wish to have a reception, please note the following:

- 1. Must be held off of Alumni Coliseum property
- 2. Must be sent to Conferencing and Events via 25Live for approval: <u>https://conferencingandevents.eku.edu/reservations-general-information</u>
- 3. Due to the lack of student workers available, the setup and equipment will be limited. Please be prepared to handle any event-related activities with staffing within your department.

Faculty Lunch and Learn

I appreciate everyone who has taken the time to attend the Faculty Lunch and Learn. The October Lunch and Learn has been our most successful of all of our campus engagement events. I attribute that to colleagues bringing thoughtful issues paired with recommended solutions leading to stimulating conversation.

Eastern Kentucky University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and Educational Institution

One outcome now under review by the Provost is the length of the semester and the correlation between lack of time between sessions and the mental health of faculty and students. Please watch for an update by the Provost on this topic.

I encourage you to sign up to attend our next session.

Faculty Lunch and Learn November 9, 2022, at 12 p.m. Case Dining Hall Sign up link: <u>https://success.eku.edu/register/?id=4f70ebe6-1e97-44ae-ba48-79d3f73ff512</u>.

Facility Improvements and Movement

Over the course of the next year, there will be significant investments in campus thanks to the historic asset preservation funding from the 2022 General Assembly. Here are some upcoming projects that might impact you or your colleagues:

- University Drive There will be intermittent road closures due to the steampipe replacement project.
- Commonwealth Hall Some departments are permanently moving to Commonwealth to provide improved office space, while others are moving into this space temporarily while their respective offices are under construction.
- Model Laboratory School
- Alumni Coliseum

If there is an issue in your building, please contact your building supervisor to ensure timely repair. If there is an unavoidable delay in repair, the building supervisor will be notified and informed of the reason.

President's Excellence Awards

The 2023 President's Excellence Awards nomination application will be opening next week. Please consider nominating a deserving colleague you work with who positively impacts the work you do, the lives of our students and the effectiveness of EKU. A link will be provided in EKU Today.

Upcoming Legislative Session

This year is a non-budget year for the General Assembly, but that does not mean we do not continue to advocate for EKU. This year, we are laying the groundwork for legislators to understand how EKU, through policy and financial support, can be the Commonwealth's partner by addressing the:

- Nursing shortage
- Teacher shortage
- Pilot shortage
- Mental health among student populations
- Students impacted by the East Kentucky flooding

In addition, we will be highlighting future budget requests including our #1 priority, an academic complex.

Eastern Kentucky University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and Educational Institution

Upcoming Events

Faculty Lunch and Learn November 9, 2022, at 12 p.m. Case Dining Hall

Thanksgiving Dinner November 22, 2022, from 5–7:30 p.m. Case Dining Hall

EKU Closure for Thanksgiving Holiday November 23-25, 2022

Colonel Conversation December 1, 2022, at 3 p.m. Crabbe Library

Board of Regents Meeting December 1, 2022

City of Richmond Parade December 2, 2022 Parking at Alumni may be impacted

Commencement December 3, 2022

As we move into Thanksgiving, I am beyond thankful for the talented and dedicated EKU faculty. I see the passion to not only teach the subjects you love but to shepherd our students, many of whom need guidance and wisdom, toward academic as well as personal success.

One Eastern,

and T. McFauldin

David T. McFaddin, Ed.D. President Eastern Kentucky University

Eastern Kentucky University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and Educational Institution